

Board of Library Trustees

Lois Czachorowski (2022) –Sheila Harbst (2021) - Jennifer Marciello (2023) - Deborah McElhinney (2023) - Barry Oremland (2021).

The Library Board of Trustees is the governing body for Walpole's Public Library. The Board has the legal responsibility for the provision of library services, custody of library property, appointment of the library director, expenditure of funds, and determination of library policy. One of the primary functions of a board is to ensure that library services effectively meet community needs. Working with library administration, the Library Board of Trustees also assists in planning and goal setting.

The Board began the year by reviewing the installation of the new server and thin clients for the public. The Board also authorized the purchase of new Microsoft Office software to be installed on the new equipment. On Monday, March 16, the library was closed to the public along with all other Town buildings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In response to closing, the library quickly introduced a delivery service for the public.

In May, the Board began working with Library administration on a re-opening plan for the Walpole Public Library. In June, Deborah McElhinney and Jennifer Marciello were elected to the Board. The Board also reviewed and updated the Museum Pass Policy. The Board reviewed and updated the Child Safety, Collection Development, and Standards of Conduct policies during the year. In July, the Board of Trustees organized for fiscal year 2021 with Deborah McElhinney as Chairperson, Lois Czachorowski as Secretary, and Barry Oremland as Treasurer. The Board also adopted the Library COVID Policy. This policy was needed to make some library policies conform to public health recommendations.

Following the re-opening plan, the library re-opened to the public on Monday, August 3, on a by-appointment basis and with limited hours. Library service hours were extended on Tuesday, September 8, to include evenings and Saturdays. On Monday, October 19, the library switched from a by-appointment service model to opening the building setting a maximum occupancy of 30 patrons. The Board finished the year by reviewing the proposed FY2022 budget for the library.

The Board of Trustees would like to thank the Friends of the Walpole Public Library for sponsoring the many wonderful programs throughout the year and the staff of the Walpole Public Library for their service to the residents of Walpole. The Trustees would also like to thank all who have helped this year with gifts, suggestions, and keen interest in the Library and its functions.

The Board meets on the third Tuesday of the month.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah McElhinney, Chairperson
Board of Library Trustees